



# THE BELL RINGER



VOL. 39, NO. 3

MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

FEBRUARY 25, 1983

## MBA Exams:

### Do They Count Too Much?

By MARK OLDHAM

Recently on the Hill, there seems to have been a significant amount of complaint about the MBA examination policy. The greater part of this complaint has been voiced by the student body with the most common grievance being that exams count too much of one's semester average. It is true that much of this dissatisfaction is a natural predecessor to midterm exams, however, the students may also have some valid points in their argument. As *The Bell Ringer* feels that this issue is one of importance, especially to the students, *The Bell Ringer* decided to confront the topic to various faculty and administrative members.

Mr. Drake, American History teacher and Assistant Headmaster, was the first person addressed. When asked how he felt about exams counting one third of the student's semester average, Drake said that he didn't want to be noncommittal, but really had no strong feelings on the matter. He did however say, "As a teacher, I do like a time period where my students have to put everything together. That obviously ought to count a substantial amount." When asked how he felt about an alternative to the present one third policy, Drake remarked, "Logically, from every standpoint, counting the exams one fourth makes more sense because you can count each of the student's six weeks one fourth."

*The Bell Ringer* next confronted Headmaster Gordon Bondurant with the issue. Bondurant was asked for the particular reasoning behind the examination policy and justified the number of one third by saying that "the purpose of an education is to bring all knowledge into a cohesive whole for the long term, not the short term: counting it a third underscores the exam's impor-

tance." Mr. Bondurant's final justification for this policy is college preparation. Obviously, MBA is a college preparatory school and since most colleges will count their examination at least one third, the present policy on the Hill will only better prepare students for their coming collegiate years. From past experiences, according to Mr. Bondurant, MBA graduates seem to be more relaxed and confident than the average student in college testing situations. Also, the fact that all students take only one exam a day gives them more recovery time, as opposed to other schools where students take at least two ex-

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## Two Seniors Inducted in Totomoi

By BRYAN HASSEL

The "tapping" held on February, 7 in Wallace Hall was hardly a tapping. When Steve Maler and Todd Helm were inducted into MBA's honorary society, Totomoi, at this year's winter tapping, they were not tapped, but forcefully slammed on the back.

But this apparent act of violence is nothing new at MBA — the process has occurred at least twice a year, every year since February, 1954. At each ceremony, two or three members of the junior and/or senior class become members of Totomoi by being slapped on the back and then presented for induction into the organization. At this year's winter ceremony, the picks were both seniors — Steve Maler and Todd Helm.

Totomoi was established at MBA in 1954, when Dr. Sager was headmaster. The organization was given a constitution based on a similar club at McCallie called Keokio. The constitution of Totomoi states several main purposes: to promote participation, uphold traditions, further moral development, and recognize outstanding individuals who contribute to the school.

To determine which students receive the distinguished honor, an elaborate point system is used. Everything the student does at MBA earns points for that student towards induction. Points are accumulated in any of these five fields: (1) scholarship, (2) athletics, (3) student government, (4) organizations, forensics, and dramatics, and (5) publications and citizenship.

When it comes time for consideration of a given class, each student is examined. Based on the amounts of points awarded to a given student in a given field, the faculty determines whether that field is a major field for the student, a minor field for the student, or if the student receives no credit. In order to be eligible for Totomoi, a senior must have one major and three minors, while a junior must have two majors and one minor.

Once eligibility has been determined, the entire faculty votes on each eligible member. For the most part, all eligible students are accepted and later tapped. On the average, over the course of three tappings, a given class will have about six members inducted.

According to Mr. Drake, this complicated process is "excellent." He and current members of Totomoi all agreed that by nature, the process has to be selective or the value of the award decreases. Mr. Drake did say that the process at times seems too selective, but he expressed his approval of the system as it stands, taken in perspective that it was not designed to recognize all outstanding students.

The selection process has been changed only three times in the almost thirty years of Totomoi's existence, but another change is on its way. This amendment will include activities such as membership in the outing club and taking art courses to count towards membership. Aside from minor changes such as this, however, the constitution remains very similar to its original form in terms of goals and qualifications.

In addition to recognizing students, Totomoi also offers membership to friends of MBA, alumni, and faculty. There are presently several members of the faculty in Totomoi: Mr. Drake, Mr. Carter, Mrs. Lowry, Mrs. Garriott, Mrs. Liles, Mr. Novak, and Mr. Regen.

Mr. Regen is an interesting example, because he is not only a faculty member, but also an alumnus. The math teacher became a member of Totomoi while he was still a student at MBA, in 1971. Reflecting on his induction, Mr. Regen said the ceremony is about the same in 1983 as it was when he was inducted, and that the club itself receives about the same emphasis as it did twelve years ago.

Because of his long-time membership in the organization, Mr. Regen is also in a unique position to evaluate Totomoi and its contribution to the school. He said that more than anything, Totomoi helps him reflect about his experiences at MBA. In addition, Mr. Regen said he feels a special sense of unity with the people who have entered Totomoi both before and after him, such as the founder, Dr. Sager. One more benefit of Totomoi, said Mr. Regen, is the fact that the club provides a model for the students. The qualifications for Totomoi represent a set of values and goals worthy of setting.

Mr. Drake gave a similar justification for Totomoi in terms of its serving as a model. The assistant headmaster, however, emphasized

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Pictured here are seniors Todd Helm (left) and Steve Maler (right) who were inducted into MBA's honorary fraternity, Totomoi, in February.

## Groundbreaking for Gym Expansion Set for March 10

By GREG MOORE

On March 10, the groundbreaking ceremony will be held for the gymnasium extension. The new gym facilities are the third phase of MBA's construction plans, following the construction of the Massey Building, and the sports complex. The administration plans to invite to this historic occasion all persons who have contributed to the school's endowment campaign, which has already netted 7.1 million dollars of the goal of 7.5 million since being announced last year.

According to Mr. Bondurant, the occasion is "a ceremonial groundbreaking and a thank you to our donors," with actual construction not beginning for several months. The ceremony is scheduled to be held behind the gymnasium with Board Chairman Joe Davis and Campaign Chairman

Dewitt Thompson IV scheduled to speak. Following the ceremony, a reception will be held in the gym for all guests of the school.

The extension itself will follow the same architectural style as the existing gym and will extend one hundred feet east towards Brighton Avenue. A wall will separate the existing gymnasium from the extension with the exit doors on the east side of Curry gymnasium serving as an entrance to the upper level. The upper level will contain a lobby with restroom facilities and a concession stand, two coaches' offices, and a high school gym with seating for 275 people. On the lower level, the current freshman locker room will become a science lab for AP Biology and AP Chemistry classes.

On the southeast side of the addition, there will be a 43- by 81-foot wrestling room to replace

the current inadequate room. In the middle of the lower level will be a new locker room to make up for the space lost to the new AP laboratory, and a 36- by 66-foot weight room will occupy the northeast corner with a legitimate training room and laundry room. The whirlpools will be effectively used in the new training room, rather than being used in showers, where they are currently crowding needed space.

Although the project has not yet been designated to a contractor, Mr. Bondurant says that a "very loose approximation of the total cost is in the area of \$900,000 possibly reaching \$1,000,000. The new facility should help MBA reach its goal of excellence both in academics and athletics by providing needed laboratory space for the students, as well as superior athletic facilities for the athletes.

## No Tuition Raise for 1983-1984

By TOMMY OLIPHANT

In a January meeting, the MBA Board of Trustees decided that there will be no tuition increase for the 1983-1984 school year. Significant gifts to MBA's Endowment Fund and a marked reduction in the rate of inflation were cited as primary causes for the decision.

Tuition will remain at \$3170 for high school students (grades 9-12) and \$3070 for junior school students (grades 7 and 8). This rate includes the athletic and activity fees which have been stated separately in the past.

A February 4, 1983 letter stated:

"Costs have continued to escalate and will do so next year. The Capital and Endowment Campaign, however, is achieving significant success, enabling the

school to underwrite through gifts and endowment earnings the difference between your son's tuition and the actual costs related to his education."

MBA's endowment creates earnings that underwrite approximately \$400 of each student's tuition. An additional \$300 per student is generated by the Endowment per capital purposes including renovations, larger maintenance items, and replacement fund.

Thanks mainly to the Tradition of Excellence Campaign, which involves Trustees, alumni, parents, and friends, MBA has generated 7.2 million dollars for new and renovated athletic facilities and school buildings. About four million dollars of this campaign will be placed in the Endowment fund.



## Totomoi . . .

(Continued from page 1)

to have a broad range of interests. Totomoi, according to Mr. Drake, recognizes the student who pursues several areas rather than the one "deeply committed" to a single area. Mr. Drake went on to say that the basis of a small school like MBA has to be a set of students with exactly the wide basis of interests encouraged by Totomoi.

Drake also pointed out Totomoi's role in the college selection process. Although what Totomoi means often has to be explained to college admissions officials, the organization generally contributes to acceptance: "Participation makes a big difference at the collegial level," said Mr. Drake, and Totomoi certainly recognizes excellence in participation. Mr. Drake explained that colleges are not as interested in simply what a student has received from the school as in what a student has given to the school.

This year's senior class now has four members of Totomoi on the books. At last year's Spring Tapping, Lyn Robbins and John Dale were inducted. This year, Steve Maler and Todd Helm joined the

ranks.

Todd, the vice-president of the student body, felt honored by his induction. Helm pointed out that the Totomoi requirements do not necessarily outline what an MBA student should be. Rather, Todd said, the organization serves more to "shape an attitude" about participation in the school. Todd went on to say that his induction was more an honor than a reward, because his participation at MBA had been rewarded by participation itself.

Steve Maler, the president of the honor council this year, had a similar interpretation of the merits of Totomoi. Steve explained that the Totomoi requirements provide a general outline for excellence at MBA, but that there are other qualities, not covered by Totomoi which are certainly as important. To Steve, induction into Totomoi was both a "reward for working hard" and "an honor that the faculty had chosen him."

Congratulations are in order for both seniors, as they have truly exhibited the "special service through commitment" for which Totomoi stands.

## Art Show Has Broad Appeal

By CHRIS KELLEY

An excellent art exhibit opened Sunday, February 5 in the Patrick Wilson Library to a diverse audience of students, parents, teachers, artists, and passers-by, all of whom were equally impressed. The show had such a broad appeal because it featured art works in several different mediums with which many people are familiar. Featured in this exhibit were ceramics, pottery, sculptures by Sue Barnes, oil paintings by Margaret Schilling and patchwork quilts collected by Ann Hayes.

The theme of this exhibit was the concept of patterns in art; it is fitting that these three mediums were chosen for the show since each one incorporates a certain amount of

patterning in their execution. The collection of ceramic pottery, sculpted by Nashville artist Sue Barnes, employs random patterns of ridges and crests along the thickly glazed clay surface. The resulting effect is quite unpredictable, but the natural randomness enhances the beauty of the iridescent onion shaped sculptures.

The paintings by Margaret Schilling (grandmother of MBA eighth grader Layne Martine) incorporate formal patterns that follow the conventions of art such as the proper arrangement of light and dark and the integrity of a color scheme. The result is a very professional creation. The patterns are not in the texture of this artist's medium as it is in Sue Barnes' pot-

tery, but rather in its arrangement of the still life. In Sue Barnes' pottery one can feel the patterns, in Margaret Schilling's paintings one can see the patterns. The exhibit of quilts collected by Ann Hayes, mother of junior Larry, feature beautiful quilts encompassing a period of two hundred years, made by both American and English quiltmakers. This fine collection employs both texture and vision in its patterns. The quiltmaker formed the patterns in the arrangement of the cloth. The choice of a coarse cloth or a soft cloth dictates the texture of the pattern; the color of a cloth chosen dictates the visual aspect of the pattern. Some of the styles of patterns used in the quilts are the "Double Wedding Ring," "Broken Star," "Jacob's Ladder," "Crown of Thorns," and "Virginia Reel."

One encouraging aspect of this exhibit is that the average person can look through with ease at the collections of ceramics, paintings, and quilts; enjoy interpreting what the artist meant to convey, and leave the exhibit with a heightened awareness of art. One is not intimidated by this exhibit; instead, the exhibit encourages one to examine the environment for other examples of art.

Currently an exhibit is being shown at the Patrick Wilson Library called "Potpourri of Original Art." This exhibit features a collection of art by students of Paul Zepelinsky, Jean Nicholson, and Linda Dubose, as well as landscape photography by Arthur Crownover. This exhibit, to be reviewed in the next *Bell Ringer*, ends March 4.



Some of the art works displayed in February's show included various sculptures by Sue Barnes.

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## MBA Hosts Southern Bell Forum

By LYN ROBBINS

On the weekend of January 21-23, MBA hosted its first-ever national caliber debate tournament, the Southern Bell Forum. Fifty teams from nineteen states made the journey to Nashville to compete despite ice and bitter cold weather. Since Mr. Sullivan has built up quite a reputation for running extravagant tournaments — the Wisconsin Forum and the Minuteman Conclave — most coaches came to the Hill truly expecting the event of the century.

The affair began on Friday night with registration and a coaches'/judges' party. After a night's rest, the expectant debaters and judges returned to MBA for five rounds of Saturday action. After a welcome from Lyn Robbins and a history of MBA presented by Mr. Bondurant, Mr. Sullivan sent the contestants off to their rounds with a few final words of well-wishing. The sixth and last preliminary round was held on Sunday morning, followed immediately by elimination rounds. Although the majority of the 16 teams that broke into octa-finals were from northern schools,



Lyn Robbins addresses the debaters participating in "Southern Bell Forum" while speaker Tom Sullivan looks on

the South certainly held its own. Three teams from Texas, as well as Pace Academy from Atlanta and Nashville's own Hillsboro High School were able to advance.

The tournament was expertly handled by Mr. Sullivan, who served as host. Results and pairings were prepared by Mr. Ted Belch from Glenbrook South High School in Glenview, Illinois. Mr. Paul Slappey, of George Washington High School in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and Mrs. Betty Laird. Sam Chang served as Tournament Director, and Lyn Robbins, as Director of Results, assisted in the tabulation process and made all announcements of results. Less noticeable, but certainly vital to the tournament, was the help of most of the debaters' parents. The Service Club also pitched in to help by providing time-keepers.

The tournament was climaxed by a fine final round between Kinkaid School of Houston, and Glenbrook North of Brook, Illinois. Troy Torrisio Jeff Leon won this round to take the first-place trophy — a "Sullivan original" engraved brass bell on a mahogany base. Trophies awarded to all teams real elimination rounds, as well as the top ten speakers. As well as the large trophy, Mr. Sullivan surprised awaiting the tournament speaker Marklin Trimm Oak Park, Illinois won this 1 and received from Mr. Sullivan a portable television set.

With the competition, judging, excellent trophies fun had by all, no one could fault the Southern Bell Forum for the debate world at large event of the century.

## MBA Exams . . .

(Continued from page 1)

aminations a day. With the case of the Junior School, the Headmaster remarked that he didn't feel as strongly on the policy as he did in high school.

The Junior School brings up another interesting topic. Logically, the exam policy in the seventh and eighth grades should be more hotly debated. If one believes a third to be out of proportion in the high school, it seems only natural that seventh and eighth graders would magnify this sentiment.

Dr. Edward Gaffney, head of the Junior School, was questioned about his feelings on this matter. Gaffney said that he does believe that exams should count one third because he feels that if they truly reflect a semester work, then "that's a proper value to give them. Sometimes a student needs an exam to bring up grades that he's had some trouble on." He also admitted that "a bad exam can hurt a lot, but if the teacher knows the students and has prepared the class well, then it is a very good indicator what that student has learned over the whole semester."

In general Dr. Gaffney feels that exams should not be looked upon as an obstacle or necessarily an asset, but rather the emphasis should be on how the teachers and the class can work together. Also, since the Junior School exams are only two hours, the teacher is forced to include basic and general knowledge, therefore reducing the chances of failing, considering proper preparation has been done.

Gaffney added, "I feel that exams after Christmas is because it helps to equalize length of the semesters."

Like Mr. Drake, Dr. J. Crowell, Dean of Students, I strong feeling on the exam but said that he once brought a proposal to reduce exam emphasis that was not approved by the faculty. Crowell remarks he would have to research further, but admitted, "If a argument were proposed to the policy, I would support it."

From *The Bell Ringer's* first there are differences of opinion the present MBA exam policy. Many students argue exams seem only to lower averages. This point is especially pertinent to seniors whose grades are of the utmost importance in college acceptance. This applies to those students retain averages in the upper throughout the year, significantly drop their average simply because of a mediocre grade. Obviously, academics are especially chiding and thus the question. Should a two to three hour determine over thirty percent student's semester work? All seem to agree that exam should count a significant amount, however, the issue lies in degree. Nevertheless, the student must decide whether they be present policy. If they do not administration agrees that the results will arise from a logic dent council proposal that be discussed among the faculty.

### Belle Meade Buffet

"A Southern Restaurant"  
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## The White Animals: The Maturing of a Dance Band

By CHRIS KELLEY

"The White Animals on a European Tour? You've got to be kidding!"

That was my reaction when I talked with Barry Foy of Dread Beat Records about the White Animals' future tour plans. It may be a surprise for many people, but the White Animals have developed a following in Europe due to the popularity of their first album, *Nashville Babylon*. When they get their latest release, *Lost Weekend*, into distribution in Europe, they will plan a tour of Britain and continental Europe.

Obviously, a lot has happened to the White Animals since their past (and probably last) date at MRA. First and foremost, they have gained a new member, Rich Parks, who replaced Willie Collins on guitar. Rich was added to the Animal lineup during the summer and has been touring with the band ever since. Dread Beat Records says that Rich is "doing real well with the group." Rich's strong blues background (he was once a member of the Double Trouble Blues Band) greatly contributes to the "dread" sound. Another big change happening to the Animals is their signing a national booking agreement with the Empire Agency, a national booking agency. This agency is very selective in its choice, choosing only bands that are "hot," which the White Animals are definitely becoming.

The fact that the Animals are hot

### Def Leppard Lights a Fire

By JOHN LEVY

Def Leppard's third album, *Pyromania*, is one of the freshest, most innovative albums to come over the hard-rock horizon in several years. Ridding the crest of a wave of resurgence in heavy metal music, Def Leppard is a British quintet formed in 1979. Producer Mutt Lange, who has previously worked with AC/DC and Foreigner, gives the band a smooth, yet spontaneous sound suggestive of some sort of bizarre mix between AC/DC and Rush: heavy on guitars with a dose of synthesizer thrown in for good measure, and yet propelled by some aggressive, yet surprisingly supple drumming.

Def Leppard's success and growing popularity among a new generation of heavy metal fans rests mainly in their ability to rise above the sluggish, pretentious rifting that bands like Black Sabbath and Triumph find necessary. Although Def Leppard relies heavily on the guitars of Steve



The famed White Animals (from left to right): Ray Crabtree, Steve Boyd, Kevin Gray, Rich Parks, and Tim Holt.

becomes apparent when one sees their touring schedule. The White Animals play 250 dates per year, which is quite rigorous considering the area they tour, which goes from "Boston to Austin." When asked about the rigors of touring, Foy said, "It's really hard, but these guys love it. They really eat it up." Anyone who has seen the Animals live can testify for the fact that the band is consistent as far as their live show goes. Foy commented, "You ask for animals, You Get Animals!"

Just recently, the White Animals completed a video of their song

"Don't Care, which has been targeted for use on MTV, the cable music channel. The Animals added this song to their repertoire during Christmas but have yet to put it on vinyl. In January, they worked on several singles off of *Lost Weekend*. These songs have been engineered especially for radio release. Hopefully, one will soon be hearing the White Animals own version of "party music for party people" on Nashville radio. Nashville will soon be able to see the White Animals in town when they play at Cantrell's Feb. 25. For those readers who cannot enter Cantrell's, they will be playing a Harpeth Hall dance in March. If you have never seen the White Animals live you shouldn't miss them. Get ready for some serious hoppin'!

Clark and Phil Collen and the throaty vocals of lead screamer Joe Elliot, the band also features rather prominently the crack rhythm section of Rick Savage and Rick Allen. The best tunes on the album, "Rock! Rock! (Till You Drop)" and "Rock of Ages" feature a danceable beat underneath a strata of ferocious guitar work, while slower numbers, like "Too Late for Love" and "Billy's Got a Gun" show off the band's excellent musicianship, smoothness on harmony vocals, and surprisingly thoughtful lyrics.

The album's single, "Photograph," is receiving some local airplay and is fairly representative of the group's sound. This album should definitely be listened to. Both those who love hard-rocking heavy metal and those who have written off heavy metal as outdated seventies music will find this record surprisingly refreshing. This band deserves a larger audience than it has and hopefully *Pyromania* will bring it to them.

## Annual Alternative Jam : Five Big Bands

By MARK OLDHAM

To most Nashvillians a Saturday in late January means Charlie Daniels and Volunteer Jam. However, on January 22, 1983, about 600 people gathered at Cantrell's on 1901 Broadway, in hopes of hearing some interesting sounds from the burgeoning local new music scene. The third annual Alternative Jam, advertised by Gatsby Productions, obviously expected more turnouts than in previous years because of the plethora of advanced tickets available (the steep \$7.00 ticket price probably turned a lot of prospects away).

The doors of Cantrell's were opened at 7:30 and the music began at about 9:00. Starting off the evening was CPS (Committee for Public Safety), a relatively new and very young band in Nashville. CPS gave Music City its first taste of Hardcore Punk on a large scale. The music was loud and fast with lyrics reflecting anger and frustration. The band clearly attempted to copy their southern California brethren (i.e., Black Flag, TSOL, and Fear) and drew very little favorable response from the crowd except from a few psychotic thug-like skin headed ruffians at the front of the stage. Most were somewhat relieved when CPS left the stage after a 45 minute-long set.

Young Grey Ruins immediately followed CPS and seemed to be more enjoyed by the audiences. Their musical style cannot easily be put into one category, however, it does possess a sort of sparse, tribal-like sound. This band was the first to get the crowd really dancing and continued to do so for an hour. After a short break of equipment changing, Nashville's oldest "new" band took the stage. Factual

entered with great audience applause and quickly began their set of techno-pop, complete with numerous moog synthesizers and robot movements. Factual sort of overstayed their welcome, but still proved their excellent musical competence.

Of all the five bands to appear at this year's Jam, Oh OK was the most critically acclaimed. This quintet hails from Atlanta, and has opened in New York for such bands as Bow Wow Wow and Pylon. Oh OK's style, according to a local music critic is "a minimalist pop sound very crisp, sing songy-like with a subdued gentle energy." The band is headed by co-lead singers/guitarists Lynda Stipe and Linda Hooper. The crowd's initial response to Oh OK was somewhat mixed; however, as the tempo increased, the cheers and applause grew louder.

Concluding the 1983 Alternative Jam was Music City's favorites, Jason and the Nashville Scorchers. Jason began his blistering set with the crowd-pleaser "Broken Whiskey Glass" and rocked through such notable tunes as "I Love the Women" with a unique blend of Country, Punk, and Rockabilly that only Jason himself could claim. The Scorchers ended their set and the evening itself in the wee hours of the morning with their own rendition of the old standard "Country Roads."

This year's Alternative Jam, though maybe not as spontaneous and exciting as in years past, helped to bring the event in the public spotlight by receiving local media coverage and promotion. One could probably bet on seeing other such extravaganzas in years to come, so long as there exist musicians willing to break the confines of local traditional sounds.

## WKDA Format Change Has Wide Appeal

By MARK OLDHAM

There is now, in Nashville, an alternative to alternative radio. 1240 WKDA on the AM dial is now self-titled "The New Beat in Town." Once a KDF rock and roll sound-alike, then a country station, WKDA, recently, has changed its format to "Rock for the 80's". In the last month WKDA turned over a new leaf to offer an innovative sound to the listener bored with ordinary pop/rock stations.

In top forty style one can hear Duran Duran, Wall of Voodoo, and the Psychedelic Furs played

back to back with Prince, Marvin Gaye, and the hot new duo with Michael Jackson and Eddie Van Halen along with some mainstream acts such as Loverboy, Eric Clapton, and Saga. Although this unusual mix may seem discordant to some, the new format is actually the best offer in town for progressive rock fans. WKDA is unique in that it harbors very little biases in the type of music it plays. In fact, the station is one of the few commercial stations in the country to dare to play both black and white acts in one format.

Like FM radio in the 70's, AM

radio for the 80's is seen by many to be the outlet for the underground music scene. More significantly, if not unexpectedly, is that Nashville, supposedly the home of country music, would be a pioneer in the field of progressive radio. Despite the sometimes-bad reception and uneven programming, WKDA promises to play 80 % "new" music. However, remember that AM still means no stereo; but if you'd rather hear The Individuals, Romeo Void, or Bananarama in mono more than "Stairway to Heaven" or "Freebird" in stereo, be prepared to keep your dial tuned to 1240 AM.

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## Class News

### Freshmen...

By BILL COCHRAN

During the winter season the freshman class proved itself a superior athletic force as the wrestling squad captured the city title. The basketball team also proved to be a highly competitive group as they fought their way to a fourth place finish in the city. Though dominating in athletics, the class hit rock bottom in academics. The Freshman Spirit Award goes to Lee Vaughn and Hudson Walker for going out to McGavock to support the freshman wrestling team. Overheard in the halls: "Looking forward to spring break, George?" "Stop hitting me, Russ!" "Are you going out with an eighth grader, Chip?"

### Sophomores...

By TREY OWEN

Exams are over and the majority of the class survived. Unfortunately for Hunt and Bobby, Bill Bainbridge did so well that he got to keep his car long enough to prove he definitely "Brakes for Animals."

Accordingly, Hunt has entered an E.T. look-alike contest and now Bobby is just plain looking for a new front end. Among other "accidents": Cort's parents gave him back the Camaro again. Shadows lurking in the Senior parking lot were foiled in their attempt to steal Robin's stereo by Steve Strohman wielding a mean umbrella. The Harpeth Hall Square Dance was a big success, especially after it was moved to Cantrell's. Hats off to Scott, Steve, and Walter for helping the Wrestling Team to the District Championships. The J.V. basketball team has also done well, beating Pearl by two points.

Michael Pirrie is back after overcoming a severe case of "foot and mouth disease." Sadly, Jack Brown has lost his pulse... and finally, "No Mac, we can't have a bottom-half car wash!"

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### Juniors...

By NICK GULAS  
and KLAUS FISCHER

As the year progresses, the news gets more boring... We wave goodbye to the eternal pessimist and Bubba's best friend, Trip Bennett... Fabian sets fashion trend with basketball boxers... Pollack applies for seat at fifth period table of masculinity... Drury and Wolfe pioneer GA at Vanderbilt... The J.V. Basketball question: "Where's Marvin 'Stinky' Morris?"... Asher and Wood go on search for the "Big H"... Blevins has crush on middle-age housewife... Was the gun real Hassel?... Junior rebuttle humbles Seniors, though game is farce... A cautious Gil Lackey spotted at Ryan party... Next issue, we will cover why Will Nowell is humming Italian songs and Stuart's preseason predictions... yours in lack-luster journalism Nick Gulas and Klaus Fischer.

### Seniors...

Since abuse contained herein covers a period of several months, we will dispense with any introductory garbage and go directly into our backlog of material dating back to early December. A spontaneous meeting of the O.A. Listening Society in the library created the first major catastrophe of the year, resulting in a vicious O.A. vs. H.C. debate over the needless lynching of a certain handicapped listener. Meanwhile, Ross bangs up his car and breaks off his elastic engagement. George Smith sends the caterers away; when you've got a Ryan dinner for free, why pay?

Jessica returns from wintering and, as a moment of her *amore*, brings Benson a whole album of her action shots in Italy. Captain Elvi Harris knows what he likes, and what he doesn't like is orange artwork, what he does like is peeping at ugly blue bears in their most primal state — Unfortunately, the administration doesn't appreciate Elvi's taste in art, and nobody appreciates his taste in bears. Born-again Keely threatens to put Ben in the O.A. and finally, the Valentine Vandals screw up their mission and end up covering at the hands of their little girlfriends — P.S. This was not an O.A. action.

## Freshman Basketball Best Yet

By MORGAN WILLIS

The MBA freshman basketball team has just closed out an impressive 1982-83 season. With the exception of a somewhat disappointing tournament, the frosh have played almost flawless basketball in posting one of the best records in the history of MBA freshman basketball with a 13-4 mark.

Jay "Skywalker" Schmitt proved to be the intimidating factor for the freshman squad, scoring at close to a 16 point clip as well as dominating the boards on each end of the court. When asked for a comment Jay said, "We're really awesome this year. Everybody's finally playing together." Talbot Masten added extra aggressive play and shooting from the outside, averaging 13.3 points per game. Other valuable starters included excellent point guard Mike Blade, steady Dave Malone, and jumping Jack Todd.

The season opened with an impressive 52-50 win over Hillwood, followed by consecutive strong wins against Glenciff and Whites Creek. The first downfall of the year came at Overton where the Big Red lost 66-57 despite a 21 point performance by Jay Schmitt. The freshmen got back on the right track with an emotional 40-39 home win over Father Ryan where the scoring was evenly balanced.

Following the Ryan game, there was a streak of four more wins over Pearl, Hume Fogg, Harpeth Jr. High (a 20 point blow-out), and East. The freshmen received their second and final loss of the regular season from Hillsboro, 65-62. The team could have received a forfeit due to the ineligibility of a Hillsboro player, but opted instead to play. Additionally, the frosh chalked up another one for the win column with a 78-43 massacre of Harpeth Jr. High at Harpeth Hall. Talbot Masten and Jay Schmitt led

a balanced attack with 18 and 17 points respectively. The Big Red continued their streak to roll over McGavock, Maplewood, and Ryan. The win over Maplewood clinched the first place spot in the city.

After a 13-2 regular season, the freshman team entered the N.I.L.L. frosh tournament as the #1 seed. They eliminated East in the quarter finals and met Overton in the semis. The team had the game under control with as little as one minute left. Overton, however, came back to win it on a twenty-foot jump shot at the buzzer. In the consolation game, the frosh were downed by Maplewood 56-53 to come in 4th place in the N.I.L.L. Coach Bennet was naturally very pleased with this year's team. He described this squad as a very talented one and said that if the members of this team continue to work hard and improve, the prospects for the future of MBA basketball will be bright.

## Debate Team Impressive

By LYN ROBBINS

The MBA debate squad has continued its winning ways. In December, the team went to the Princeton Invitational. The 4-man team of Rob Ikard, Greg Walker, Jeff Dale, and Robert Harris reached the semi-finals. In varsity debate, the MBA teams of Sam Chang/Madison Laird and Lyn Robbins/Griffin Vincent had to meet in the octa-final round, with Robbins/Vincent advancing on to the quarter finals, where they were upset on a 3-2 decision. Vincent was 3rd speaker, while Robbins was named Top Speaker.

The end of the semester brought the premature retirements of Vincent and Laird, as well as a ninth-place finish at the prestigious Georgetown Tournament, where Robbins was 10th speaker.

While MBA's Southern Bell Forum was going on, the novices travelled to Hillsboro, where Ikard/Harris won first place, and the team captured second place in the overall Sweepstakes Competition.

In January, the team travelled to Tuscaloosa for the University of Alabama Tournament. The team of Tommy Outlaw/Doug Johnson reached the quarter-finals, and Chang/Robbins easily captured first place at the event. Chang was 2nd speaker, and Robbins was first speaker. The next week brought the Barkley Forum at Emory University, a tournament attended by 190 teams. Robbins and Chang lost a 3-2 decision in quarter finals, and Robbins was named 3rd speaker.

At the Sanford University Tourney, the novice team of Jeff Dale/Paul Kahlon reached the quarter finals, while Niku Wasudev/Warren Sprouse reached semi-finals. Dale was named 4th place novice speaker.

At the NFL District Tournament, the team of Robert Harris/Tommy Outlaw finished third. The team of Sam Chang/Lyn Robbins outdistanced all other Tennessee teams to claim first place, once again qualifying an MBA team for Nationals.

Editor's Note: As one will note, there are no editorials or letters to the editors in this issue of the Bell Ringer. Any student, in junior high or high school, should submit a letter if he wishes to present an opinion to the student body. This section of the newspaper, being very versatile, can be used for anything from a comment on school policy to a belief or view one wishes to share with the student body. All tasteful letters will be printed. In addition, all writers receive article credit for their letters. Submit them to Mark Oldham, Cannon Thomas, Dr. Niemeyer, or leave them in the office.

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## Seniors Lead Basketball

By GREG MOORE

The 1982-83 Varsity Basketball had a somewhat successful season. The team reached Coach Elliott's goal of nine wins with a one point victory over arch-rival BGA. However, according to Coach Elliott, "Everyone on the team feels like MBA should have done better." Elliott attributes many of the close losses to "the difficulty in winning with a first year system, but nevertheless everyone made their own contributions and hopefully everyone is satisfied with his own effort." Despite a losing season, the players have worked very hard all year "in learning the man to man defense to help in the future, and have shown individual improvement in many cases." The team has also had some weak points, including 45% shooting from the field and 50% shooting from the charity stripe. Also, the team's inability to get started and their poor rebounding have hurt them critically throughout the

season. Despite these shortcomings, the future for MBA basketball looks very bright with the improvement in practice and the new practice facilities. In compiling a 9-18, 1-13 record, several players were outstanding. All of the senior members showed excellent leadership to the junior players. Brooks Corzine led the team in field goal percentage with 60% shooting, while Jim Fite led in free throw percentage with 74% shooting from the line. Corzine was the leading scorer with a 10.4 point average, and Matt Drury led the team in rebounding.

Next year the team will miss sorely the play and leadership of seniors Fite, George Smith, Terry Watterson, "Bob" McConnell, and Mark Robinson, but with experience gained this year, Davidson French, John Morrissey, Bill Tirril, Mike Fabian, Fletcher Lance, Kip Smith, and Drury should help the team greatly next year.



Brooks Corzine goes for ball control in a Varsity Basketball game.

## Microbe Basketball Outstanding

By PARISH LENTZ

Microbe, n. - Syn. microorganism, bacterium, bacillus; see germ. Germ? Negative. Indeed, the Microbes are a group of youths (7th and 8th graders) who inhabit the semi-luxurious Massey Hall. In the winter season of 1982-83, this edifice belched forth a group of youngsters who would train together in Brownlee O. Currey Gymnasium to hone their basketball skills and become a cohesive roundball unit.

The boys: Peter Paris, Mike Morrissey, Mark Smith, Paul Lentz, Charlie Mays, Chris Burch, Clay Trabue, Will Meyer, Brennan Martin, Randy Brown, John Teas, and Emmet Russel. The man/coach John Sacclardides. The league: the tough HVAC.

On 7 January, 1983, the Wee Red faced the Brentwood Academy Eagles on enemy turf and emerged victorious on their season opener: 38-23. On 11 January, these young men confronted the FRA rebels, once again on hostile "soil." The diminutive Red executed a severe thrashing of the mini-Rebels: 44-26. The next opponent was MBA prep, or Ensworth School, whom the Red faced after a gruelling science exam. Although mentally taxed, our boys defeated the Tigers 32-19. The succeeding game was to be with the Northside Vikings, however, this contest was cancelled due to the raging blizzard of 21 January, the very tempest which threatened the exam schedule. The ensuing ballgame was a ruthless butchering of the youngsters at St. Henry's. The

Pope's own were defeated an unbelievable 60-35!

However, tragedy lay ominously on the horizon. The Brentwood Eagles brought our boys their first defeat on 28 January, in their own Brownlee O. Curry basketball skill-honing facility. The Red was resilient, and they travelled to the Tiger Coliseum at Ensworth School. On 29 January, the very day many Tigers had tested to gain acceptance to The Hill. The little Red struggled with the previously thrashed Tigers one bucket! Meanwhile, back at the ranch, or more suitably, the Hill, on 1 February the mini-Red hosted the tough Northside Normans. The Viking attack was not only repelled, but ransacked: 46-28-1. Once again defending their home on 4 February, the Red youngsters faced the BGA Wildcats. The Cats were left ravished after our Redsters left the Cats a 20 point deficit to answer for when the final buzzer called for the termination of the contest. The Red again defended home base on 8 February against a previously humiliated FRA. Again, the Red were humiliated.

The Red then hit the road, or fell to both Northside and BGA. Both of these teams had previously been humiliated in front of family and friends by the Red. Obviously, they felt revenge was in order. However, the absence of one outstanding point-guard, Peter Paris, must be noted is a contributing factor. Two losses in a row. A comrade fresh from his

## Garfinkle and Rollins Capture State

By JOHN ROBBINS and SCOTT GARFINKEL

Although the 1982-83 varsity wrestling team began the season with a one win three loss record, the Big Red, coached by Steve Williams, fought to a 9-4 dual match record, including big victories over regional champion Father Ryan, the first dual match victory over the Irish in seventeen years, and Chattanooga powerhouses Baylor and defending state champion McCallie. The high note of the season came when the MBA wrestlers overcame twelve teams, including a stubborn Franklin squad, to win the District 8 championship. Co-captains John Dale and Kent Rollins along with Scott "Jason" Albright led the Big Red to their third straight district championship by placing first in their respective divisions. Brad Blevins, Steve Shankle, and Bruce Bentley placed second in their divisions and advanced to the Regional Tournament. Four other wrestlers: John Robbins, Scott Garfinkel, John Levy, and Mike Laws also placed in the district and advanced to the Regional. After placing these ten wrestlers in the district, the team had a chance to do well in the Regional Tournament.

In the regional, the team finished fourth, having only three wrestlers place: Garfinkel, Dale,



State Champ grappler Kent Rollins attempts to pin unlucky opponent.

and champion Kent Rollins. Rollins has won all five tournaments in which MBA has participated and he enters the State tournament with an undefeated and untied record. He will undoubtedly be chosen first team N.I.L. and he has a good chance of winning the "Wrestler of the Year." The 1982-83 wrestlers were led during the season by starters: John Robbins, 98 lb. class; Scott Garfinkel, 105; Walter Smithwick, 112; Brad Blevins, 119; John Dale, 126; John Levy, 132; Steve

Shankle, 138; Kent Rollins, 145; Steve Rollins, 155; Mike Laws, 167; Scott Albright, 185 and Bruce Bentley, Heavyweight.

Last Saturday, February 19, the MBA wrestling season culminated with two triumphant State champs. John Dale, Scott Garfinkel, and Kent Rollins all progressed to the State finals at Lipcomb, and both Garfinkel and Rollins emerged as State champs in their respective weight classes.

## J.V. Basketball Turns Around

By JOHN EDWARDS and BRYAN HASSEL

The J.V. Basketball team, despite a 6-15 record, has had a late-season surge, winning their last 4 games with only 2 games left in the season. The cause of this

surge seems to have been a recent loss to Overton by 19 points. The team was ahead 25-23 at halftime, but then lacked the consistency and concentration they showed in the first half and subsequently lost. After the game, Coach Owen had a "heart-to-heart" talk with the team, and they have not lost since.

The J.V. started this string of victories with 42-34 win over arch-rival Father Ryan. Paul Richards led the Big Red with 12 points. Davidson French added eight points, and Kevin Wolfe (6 points) hit four free throws at the end of the game to ice the victory. MBA's next victim was Hillwood. The squad defeated the Hilltoppers 46-41. Richards scored 12, and Wolfe scored 11 points in this victory. Following the win, the J.V. blew out Antioch 56-26. Richards scored 12 points to lead a balanced MBA attack. The J.V.'s most recent victory was against Pearl. Michael Pirrie sank two free throws to beat the Tigers 51-49.

Sporadic for this J.V. team have been juniors Alan Jackson and Kevin Wolfe and sophomores Robin Henderson, Michael Pirrie, and Paul Richards. Since the start

of the surge, juniors Fletcher Lance and Davidson French have also joined the J.V. squad, providing much leadership. Harry Peffen has played well in a reserve role, highlighted by an 18 point second-half against Brentwood to lead MBA to victory. Others aiding the Big Red cause have been Stephen Young, Steve Strohman, Bobby Frist, Jack Brown, Henry Trust, and David Chickey.

The strong points of the team this year have become evident in their recent surge. They apply excellent defensive pressure all over the floor, leading to numerous turnovers by their opponents. This Big Red team has forced many more turnovers than they have committed, showing their consistency on both offense and defense. Unlike previous J.V. squads, these young hoopers have shown an amazing ability to execute the fast break. Overall, when the team concentrates and plays hard for a full game, they seem able to beat anybody. Coach Owen feels that the Big Red has made great strides fundamentally as a basketball team, and should help rebuild the MBA basketball program.

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